

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending. Claim 1 is amended. The basis for this amendment can be found, for example, at paragraph 19 spanning pages 6-7. No claims are added or canceled.

Claims 1-22, 24, 25, and 27-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,994,493 ("the 493 patent"). The transition phrase of claim 1 is amended from "comprising" to "consisting essentially of" in regard to the reaction product contained in the adhesive. Based on this amendment, there can be no overlap between the instant claims and the teachings of the 493 patent. The 493 patent requires the use of (1) a polyester polyol or polyether polyol and (2) an aromatic polyol. *See*, for example, the Abstract and column 4, lines 23-39. No aromatic polyol is recited for the reaction product of the instant claims. Because anticipation requires strict identity, the cited art does not anticipate the instant claims.

Claims 1-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over the 493 patent. The 493 patent suffers from at least the defect discussed above in regard to the anticipation rejection. Because the 493 patent does not teach or suggest a composition devoid of the aromatic polyol, the instant claims are not obvious in view of the cited art. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

In regard to claim 2, Applicants note that the cited art does not teach or suggest an adhesive having a monomeric diisocyanate content to less than 0.25 weight percent. For at least this reason, Applicants submit that the anticipation and obviousness rejections should be withdrawn as applied to this claim.

Claims 1-22, 24, 25, and 27-31 stand rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-29 of the 493 patent. For reasons discussed below in regard to the obvious rejection based on the 493 patent, the instant claims are not obvious in view of the 493 patent. Applicants submit that this rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-22, 24, 25, and 31 stand rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-30 of U.S. Patent No. 6,906,148 ("the 148 patent"). Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with the rejection, a terminal disclaimer is submitted herewith in order to further prosecution.

Claims 1-31 were provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-20 of copending Application No. 11/042,742 ("the 742 application"). Applicants note that claim 1 of the 742 application utilizes, in addition to one or more of polyester and polyether polyols, "at least one hydroxy functional-polyester ether block copolymer based on one or more aromatic dicarboxylic acids" as a reactant with the polyisocyanate. The aromatic containing polyester ether is not recited in the instant claims. For at least this reason, Applicants submit that the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-31 were provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-25 of copending Application No. 10/873,884 ("the 884 application"). Applicants believe that, depending on the scope of the allowable subject matter, that the claims of the 884 application can be amended or a terminal disclaimer filed if appropriate.

Claims 1-31 were provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-21 of copending Application No. 10/703,341 ("the 341 application"). Applicants believe that, depending on the scope of the allowable subject matter, that the claims of the 341 application can be amended or a terminal disclaimer filed if appropriate.

Claims 1-31 were provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-25 of copending Application No. 10/871,343 ("the 343 application"). Claim 1 of the 343 application concerns a *method* for producing isocyanate-terminated polyurethane prepolymers, comprising reacting at least one nonsymmetrical diisocyanate with at least one polyol, wherein the ratio of isocyanate groups to hydroxyl groups is in the range from 1.5:1 to 3:1; and then adding additional polyol to lower the overall ratio of isocyanate groups to hydroxyl groups to the range from 1.1:1 to 2:1. The instant claims are drawn to a *composition*. There is no overlap between the claims as evidenced by the Office's current restriction policies. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-31 were provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 10-13, 16-18, 21-24, and 27-34 of copending Application No. 10/168,610 ("the 610 application"). Applicants believe that, depending on the scope of

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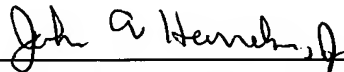
the allowable subject matter, that the claims of the 610 application can be amended or a terminal disclaimer filed if appropriate.

Claims 1-31 were provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-27 of copending Application No. 10/755,702 ("the 702 application"). The 702 application concerns a *process* for producing certain reactive polyurethanes. The instant claims are drawn to a *composition*. There is no overlap between the claims. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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